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STARS MY DESTINATION

STARMAN



ROBINSON
GOYER
SNEJBERG
CHAMPAGNE

DIRECT SALES



7 61941 20247 1

A
RATHER
STRANGE
ADVENTURE

4-98
FOR ALL

FROM THE
SHADE'S
JOURNAL...

Jack Knight, Mikaal Tomas and the Ted Knight hologram have returned from their jaunts through time, to the task at hand--finding Will Payton, the Starman prior to Jack.

Now read on...

DO YOU SEE THE
PLANET WE'RE
PASSING BY?

THE GREEN
ONE, TED?

NO. NO, THE
BROWN ONE. MORE
TO THE LEFT...
THAT'S RANN.

RANN... AS IN
ADAM STRANGE? WOW,
I WISH WE HAD TIME TO
VISIT. I HEARD ABOUT HIM
FROM DAD... I ALWAYS
THOUGHT HE WAS
COOL.

REALLY? I DIDN'T KNOW. WHY
DID YOU FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT--

WE HAVE TO
LAND THERE!

WHAT'S UP, MIKAAL?

MY ENERGY CRYSTAL... IT...
I CAN FEEL IT INSIDE ME...
BACK WHEN I WAS STARMAN...
BRIEFLY... IT WARNED ME
OF DANGER...

A SIXTH
SENSE?

ONLY
SOMETIMES.
AND EVEN
THEN ONLY FOR
THE FIRST FEW
MONTHS ON
EARTH. BUT NOW,
I BURN WITH
SENSATION--

TURRAN
KHA IS
DOWN
THERE!

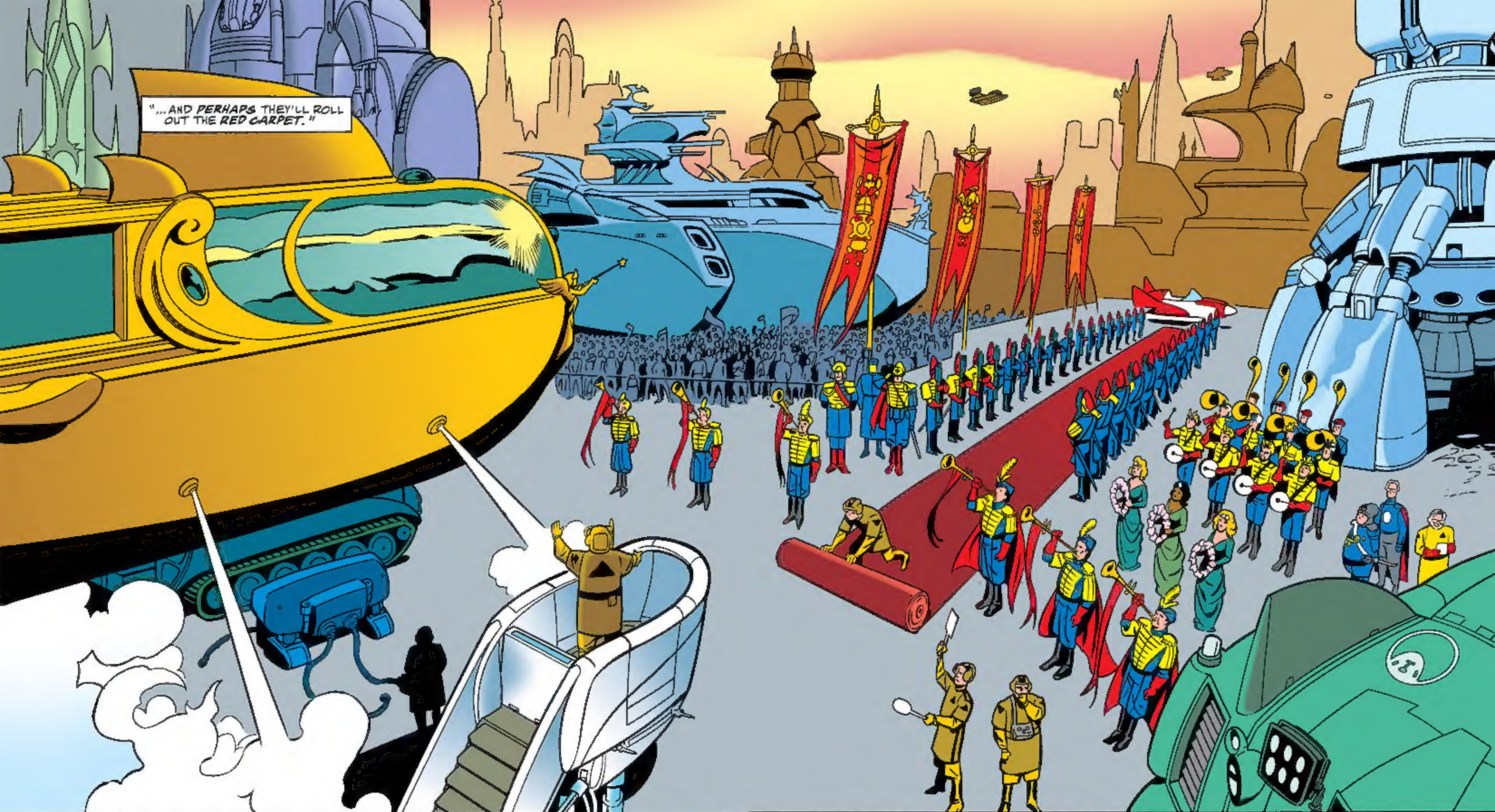
WHO?

AN OLD ENEMY. I THOUGHT HIM DEAD.
IT WAS HE WHO I DREAMED OF... WHEN I
WRECKED THE CONTROL ROOM.

IF HE'S DOWN
ON RANN, THEN
RANN IS IN
PERIL.

IF YOU
SAY SO, MIKAAL.
IF YOU TRULY
BELIEVE WHAT
YOU'RE TELLING
US, WE'LL MAKE
A DETOUR.

MY DATA BANKS
ALREADY HAVE
RANN'S LANGUAGE
ENCODED. I'LL
NOTIFY RANAGAR
WE'RE COMING...





... PLEASE
ACCEPT THE
HOSPITALITY OF
RANN WHILE YOU
VISIT HERE.

AND
THAT OF ITS
ADOPTED
SON...

**ADAM
STRANGE**

**MEN OF
TWO
WORLDS**

ROBINSON & GOYER - story
ROBINSON, words SNEJBURG, pencils
CHAMPAGNE, inks DAKLEY, letters
WRIGHT, colors GWC, separations
TOMASI, edits

JACK KNIGHT created by
ROBINSON & HARRIS

GODWIN
guiding light

LATER, AFTER THE TRUMPETS SOUND, THE CYMBALS CRASH. LATER. QUIET AND CALM.

I HAVE A CONFESSION. THE WELCOME YOU RECEIVED IS SOMEWHAT MORE THAN YOU WOULD HAVE GOTTEN ON ANY OTHER DAY.

THAT'S WHAT WE THOUGHT. I MEAN... WE'VE NEVER EVEN MET.

NO. BUT ON MY LAST TRIP TO EARTH, I HEARD ABOUT YOU. YOU DON'T SEEM THE OBVIOUS HERO.

I COULD SAY THE SAME OF YOU.

JACK TOLD ME JUST NOW, HOW MUCH HE ADMIRERD YOU.

I JUST THINK THE IDEA OF CROSSING SPACE OUT OF LOVE FROM YOUR SWEETHEART, IT'S LIKE THE STUFF OF FAIRY TALES OR ANCIENT MYTHS.

I COULD SAY THE SAME OF YOU.

ANYWAY, WHY THE POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE?

RANN... THE NEW, IMPROVED RANN I'M HELPING TO BRING ABOUT... IT'S DONE WITH PETTY WARS. WE FOUGHT ONE WITH THANAGAR SOME YEARS AGO, THAT WE COULD SCARCE AFFORD.

OTHER TERRITORIAL SQUABBLES OVER SPACE QUADRANTS CAUSE SABER RATTLING AND THE THREAT OF COMBAT.

WE SEEK AN END TO IT.

HOW SO?

A TREATY.

RANN AND MANY OF ITS ADJOINING PLANETS. LIKE THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS ON EARTH... A LEAGUE OF PLANETS. MY HOPE IS THIS TREATY WILL GROW FROM BEING A LEAGUE OF PLANETS AND INTO THE UNITED PLANETS.

WE'VE BEEN WELCOMING REPRESENTATIVES FROM THESE WORLDS ALL DAY. YOUR ARRIVAL WAS THE LAST SUCH LANDING. THE BAND WAS STILL IN PLACE, SO I THOUGHT... HEY, WHY NOT GIVE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EARTH THE SAME HONOR?



DO YOU LIKE RANAGAR,
OUR CAPITAL CITY?

THIS TOUR WE'RE GETTING AS WE
LOOK FOR TURRAN KHA IS SPECTACULAR.
WHAT AN AMAZING PLACE.

YES. I'VE
COME TO LOVE IT.
AT FIRST IT SEEMED...
STERILE. COLD. THE
ONLY THING I RETURNED
TO AGAIN AND AGAIN
WAS MY BELOVED
ALANNA.

OVER TIME,
THOUGH, I THINK
I'VE INFECTED THE
PEOPLE OF THE
PLANET WITH WHAT
I'M SURE SOME SEE
AS MY PRIMITIVE
EARTH WAYS.

BUT LOOK.
THAT *STATUE*
SHOWS THEY
THINK HIGHLY
OF YOU.

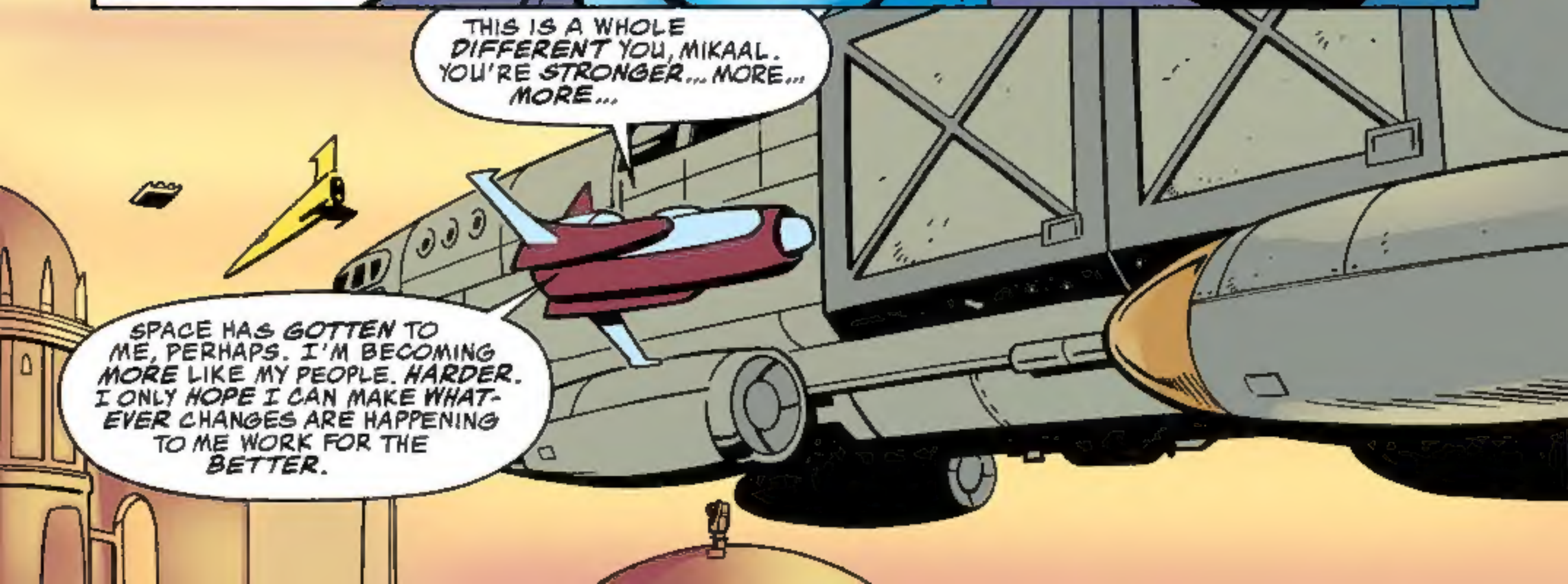
MANY DO.
MANY DON'T. YOU
SAVE THE WORLD
ENOUGH TIMES, THEY
HAVE TO HONOR YOU
IN SOME WAY.

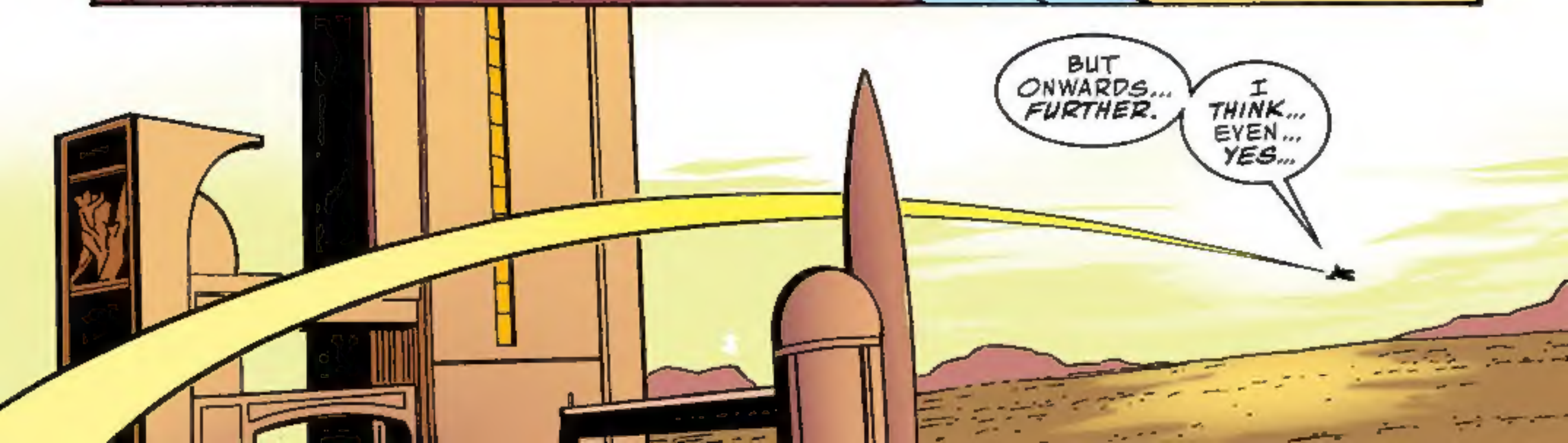
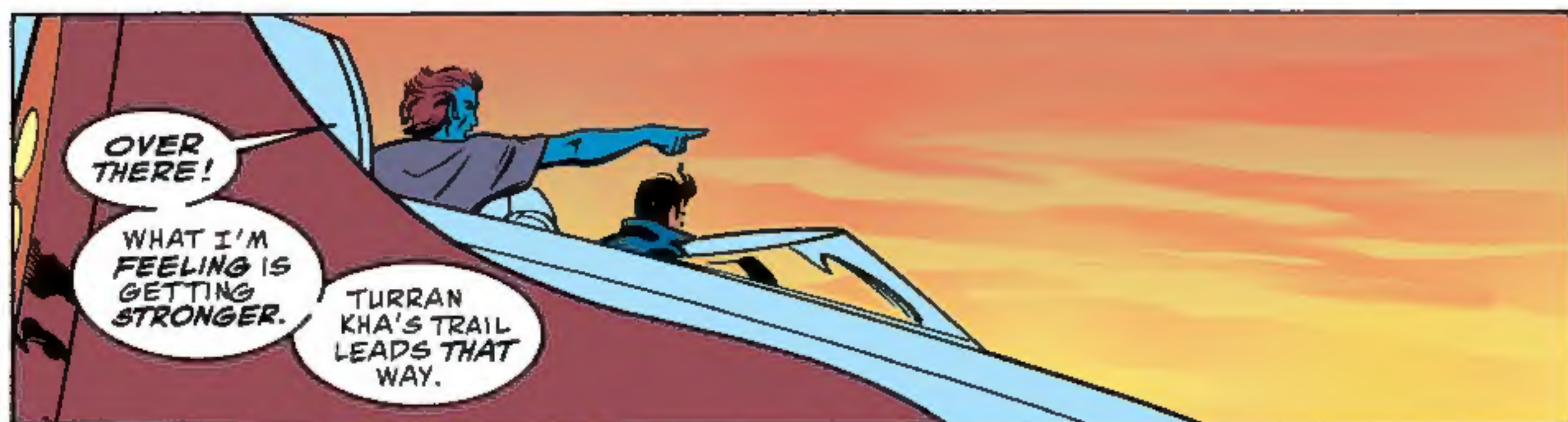
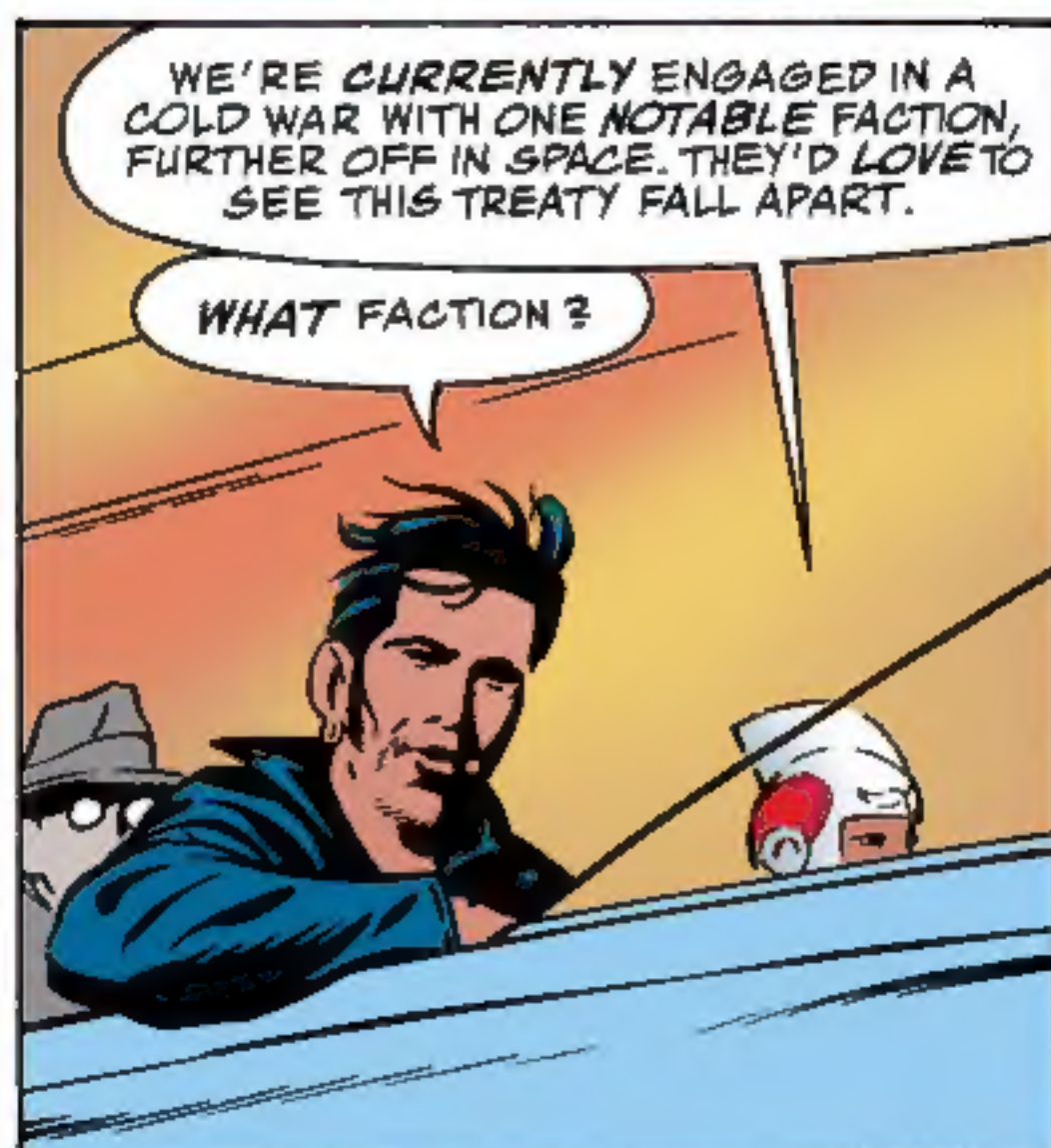
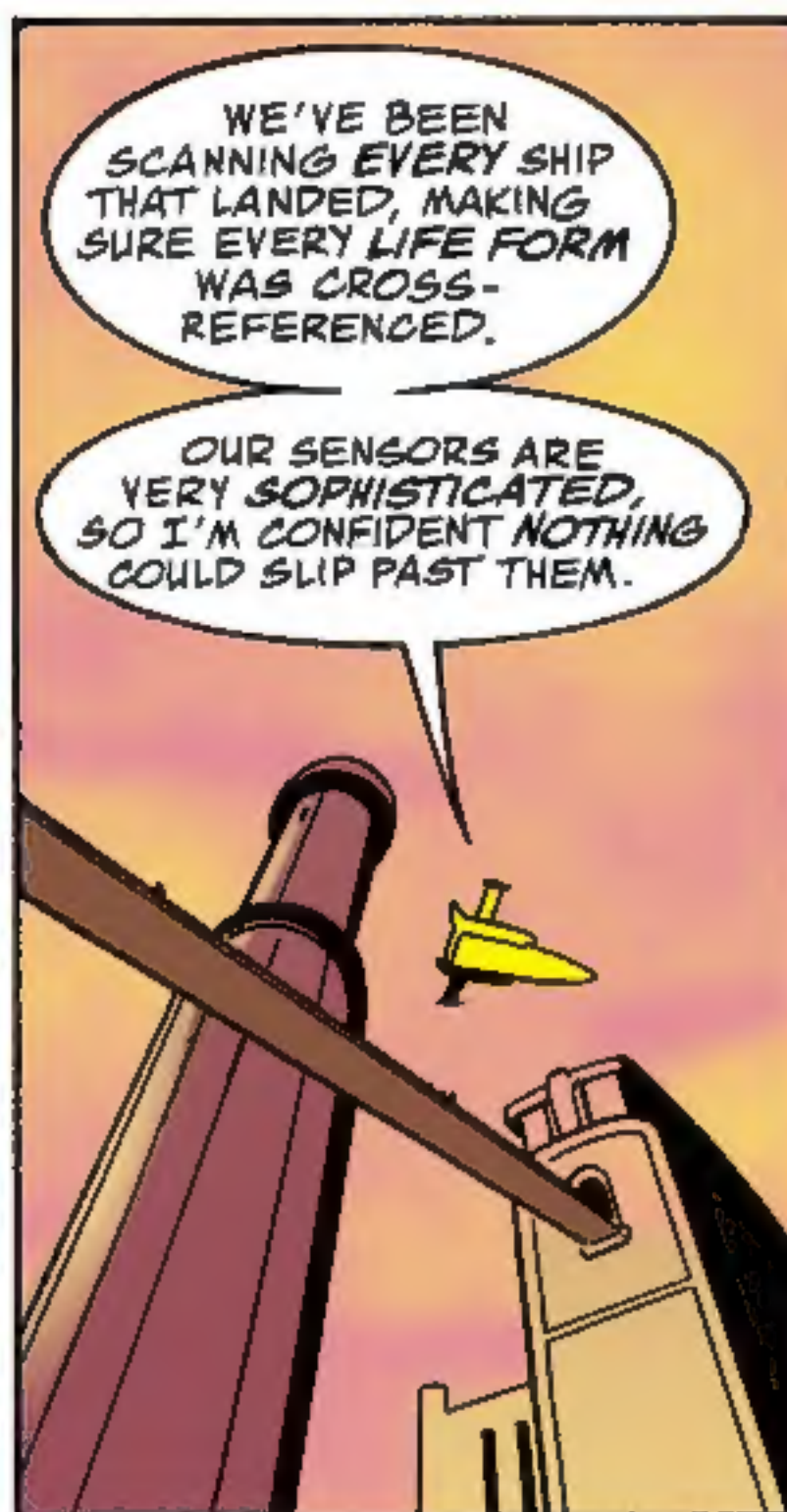
WELL, RANAGAR
LOOKS WONDER-
FUL. YOU MUST
BE VERY
PROUD.

I AM. THE PLANET
HAS BEEN THROUGH
MUCH OVER THE LAST FEW
YEARS... AS HAVE I. IT WAS
ONLY RECENTLY I LEARNED
MY WIFE STILL LIVED. THAT
HAS HELPED TO CALM ME...
AND SARDATH, ALANNA'S
FATHER.

FOR A WHILE THERE WHEN ALANNA WAS
PREGNANT... AND THEN SHE DIED... OR
APPEARED TO. SARDATH AND I
WERE BOTH ACTING...

... WELL, LOOKING
BACK WE MUST HAVE
BOTH SEEMED TOTALLY
IRRATIONAL.





"...WE HAVE TO GO
OUT OF THE CITY."

YOU TOLD ME ABOUT
YOUR VISIT TO A BLUE
PLANET. SWAMP THING
HAD BEEN THERE.

YEAH.

HE CAME HERE,
TOO. I'M NOT CERTAIN,
BUT I THINK HE CREATED
THIS PLACE.

IT'S
IDYLLIC.

A GIFT, I THINK... THE
CREATURE WAS KINDER... MORE
NOBLE THAN HIS APPEARANCE
MIGHT HAVE SUGGESTED. WE... THE
JLA THAT IS... THEY HELPED TERRA-
FORM SOME OF THE PLANET. BUT
NOWHERE IS QUITE LIKE HERE.

IT'S IN
THERE!

WHAT?

WHERE
TURRAN KHA'S
TRAIL IS
STRONGEST.

I'LL
RADIO FOR
TROOPS.

LATER...

NOW I'M
NO ROCKET
SCIENTIST...

... BUT
THAT SURE
LOOKS LIKE A
ROCKET.

IT'S DAMAGED.
HIS LANDING... AVOID-
ING OUR GROUND SEN-
SORS... HE MUST HAVE
BEEN FORCED DOWN.



THE BAD NEWS IS HE'S VANISHED AND HE BROUGHT AN ATTACK TEAM OF MEN TO RANN WITH HIM IF THE EVIDENCE IS ANYTHING TO GO BY.

THEY'RE NOWHERE AROUND, SIR. WE HUNTED HIGH AND LOW.

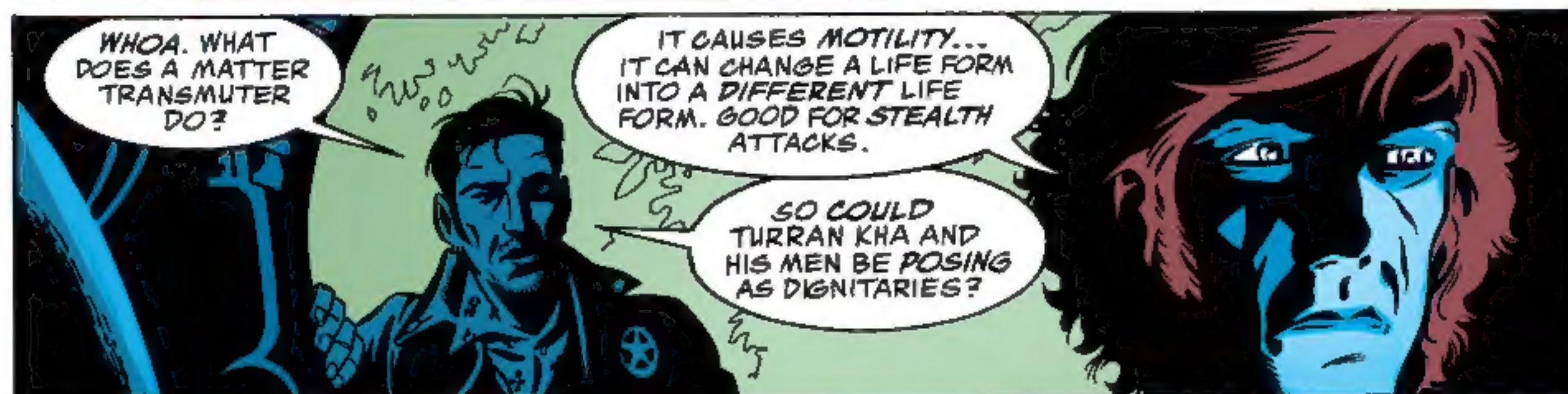
MY TRAIL ENDS HERE, TOO. I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO DIRECT US NEXT.



WHAT'S THIS, MIKAAL?

IT'S A COMPUTER LOG OF ARMS AND INVENTORY TAKEN FROM THE SHIP. IT'S WRITTEN IN THE TEXT OF MY PEOPLE.

HE TOOK WEAPONS MAINLY. GUNS. ENOUGH FOR A SMALL ARMY. A MATTER TRANSMUTER. INCENDIARY PROBES. A LASER VACUUM.



WHOA. WHAT DOES A MATTER TRANSMUTER DO?

IT CAUSES MOTILITY... IT CAN CHANGE A LIFE FORM INTO A DIFFERENT LIFE FORM. GOOD FOR STEALTH ATTACKS.

SO COULD TURRAN KHA AND HIS MEN BE POSING AS DIGNITARIES?



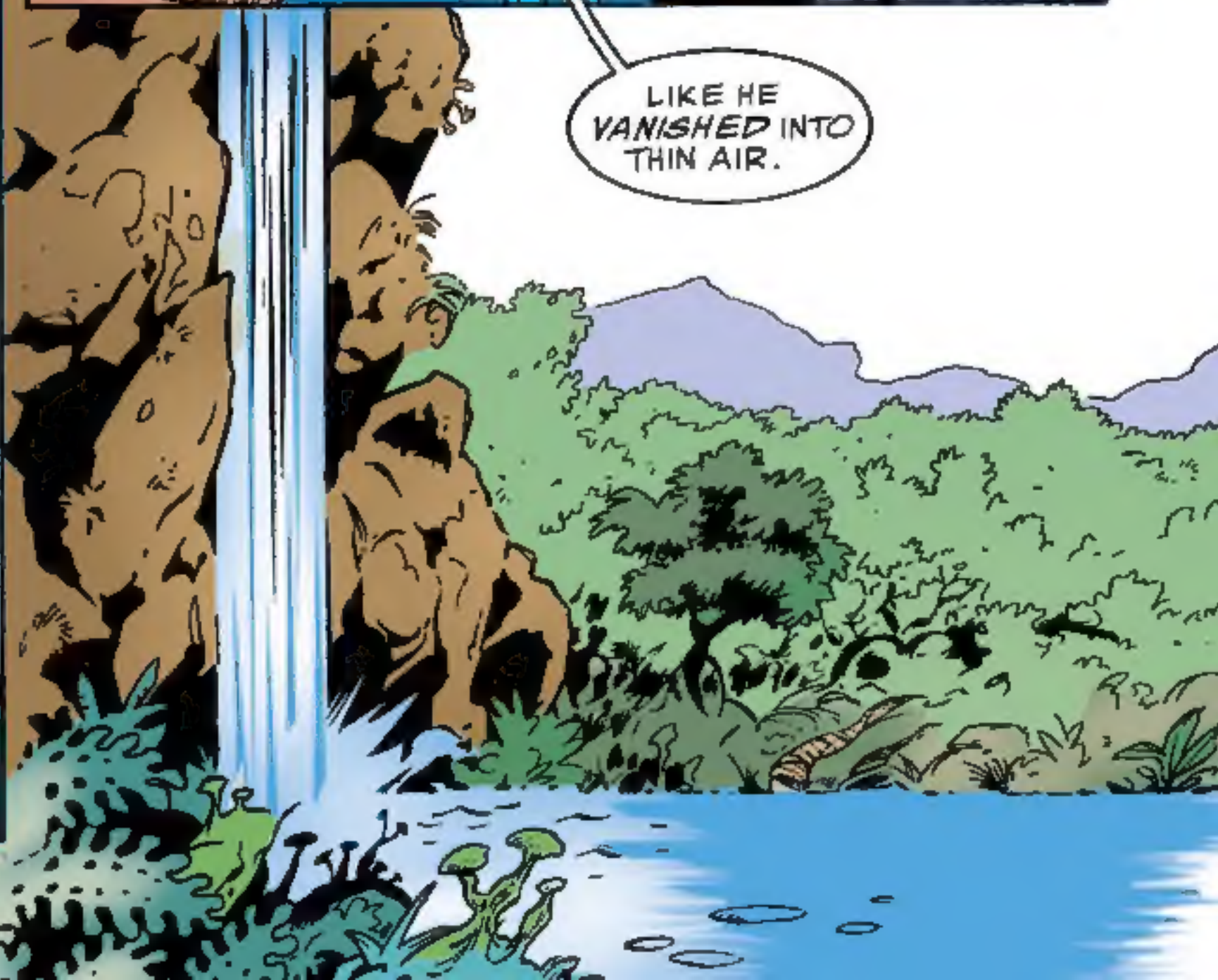
NO. TRANSMUTERS AFFECT APPEARANCE, BUT SOMEONE'S ENERGY SIGNATURE STAYS THE SAME.

THE ENERGY SIGNATURES OF EVERYONE ARRIVING ON RANN WERE RELAYED TO US AHEAD OF TIME. ALL WERE CROSS-REFERENCED AS MATCHING. IF KHA'S GOING TO STRIKE IN THE GUISE OF ANOTHER, IT WON'T BE THAT WAY.

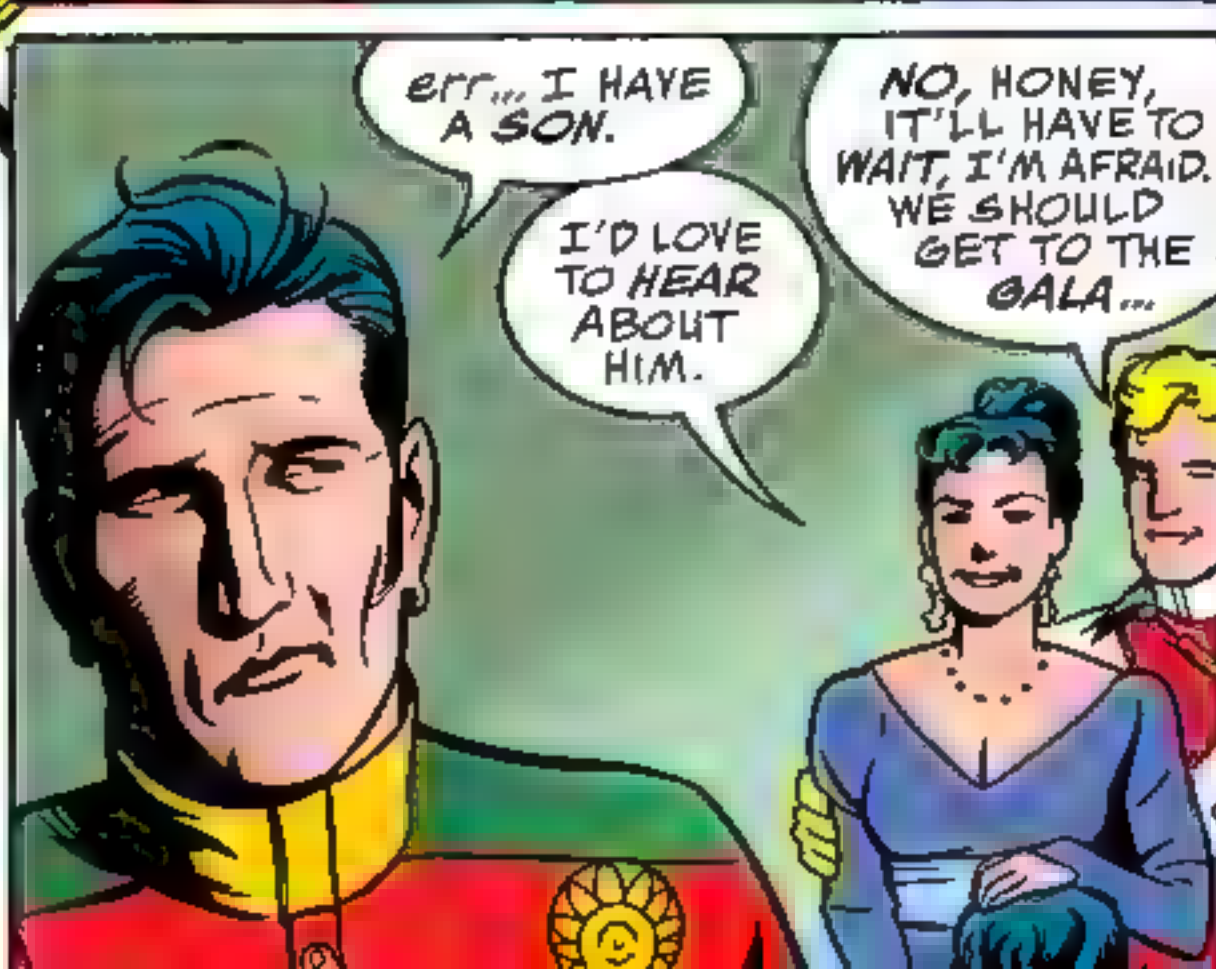
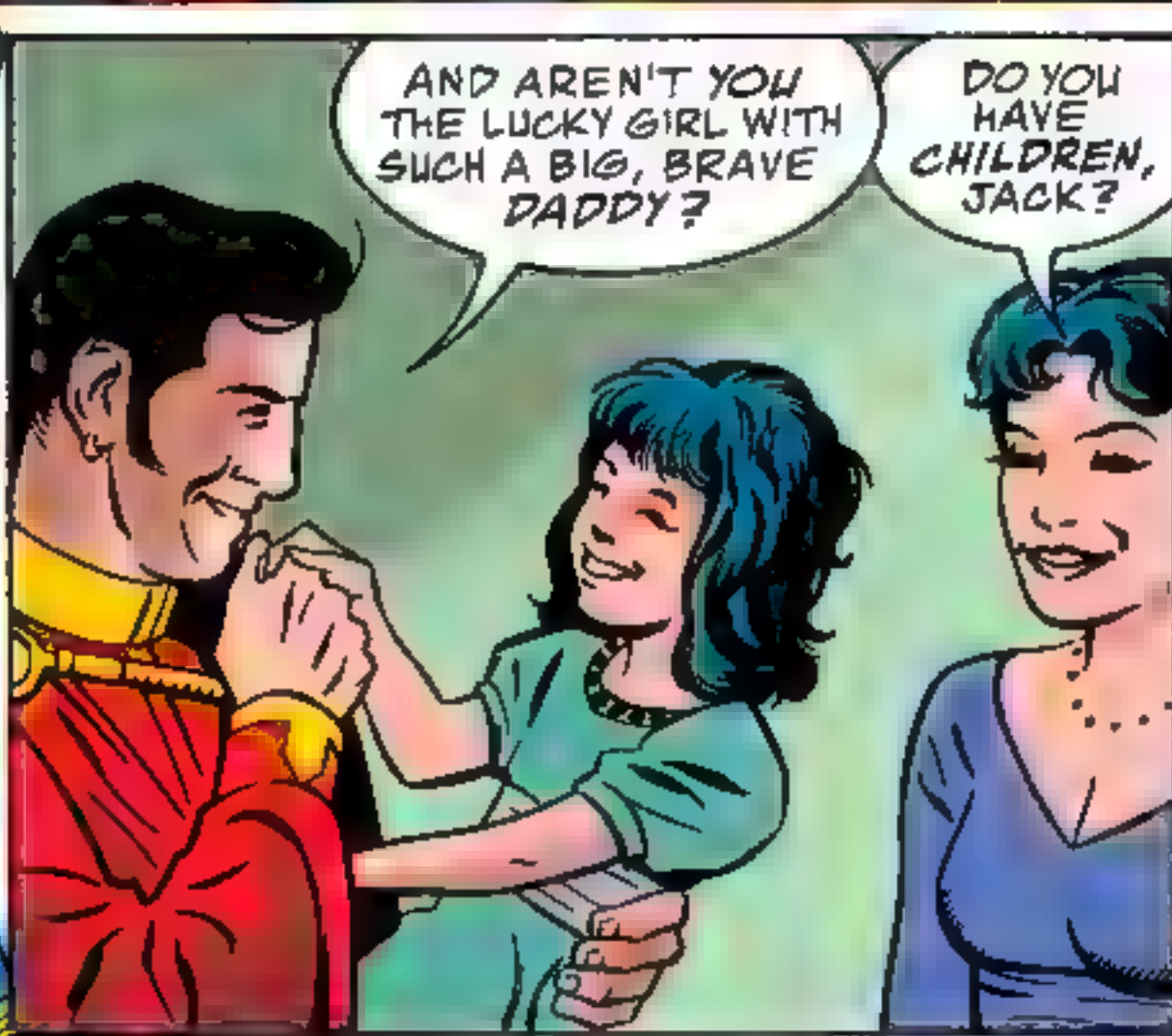


BUT THIS IS CRAZY. YOU SAY HIS ENERGY TRAIL IS GONE, MIKAAL?

I'M AFRAID SO, JACK. GONE.



LIKE HE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR.



"... IT WILL HAVE ALREADY STARTED."

ALIEN RACES RUB SHOULDERS AND KNOCK EACH OTHER'S DRINKS.

THEY SPEAK IN TONGUES SO QUICKLY MY TRANSLATOR PLUG HAS TROUBLE KEEPING UP. WORDS I UNDERSTAND FADE OUT, BECOMING ALIEN CHATTER. THEY FADE BACK IN AND OUT AS I MOVE THROUGH THE HALL.

IT REMINDS ME OF A VINTAGE TOY-BUYING TRIP I TOOK TO TEXAS.

DRIVING ALONG THE HIGHWAY CLOSE TO THE BORDER, IN A CHEAP RENTED CAR WITH A CHEAPER RADIO, THE OLDIES STATION WOULD FADE IN AND OUT, REPLACED BY MEXICAN FM.

MOTOWN AND FRANKIE VALLI BECAME LATINO VOICES AND MARIACHI, ONLY TO RETURN MOMENTS LATER TO THE SOUNDS OF DETROIT.

OF COURSE I'M A LONG WAY FROM TEXAS NOW.

ALANNA REMAINS BY MY SIDE. I APPRECIATE HER COMPANY. SHE'S SO VERY LOVELY.

WE PAUSE A MOMENT TO WATCH THE "FOUNTAIN DANCERS"-- WATER SATURATED WITH ELECTRICAL IONS WHICH ARE THEN CONTROLLED BY A COMPUTER TO TAKE HUMAN SHAPE. DELIGHTFUL. THEIR FLUID MOVEMENTS. RESTFUL ON THE EYES.

ONE THANAGARIAN TELLS ANOTHER WHAT PROMISES TO BE THE FILTHIEST JOKE I'VE EVER OVERHEARD.

BUT LIKE BEFORE, THE TRANSLATION FADES OUT AND I MISS THE PUNCHLINE.

AND ALL THE WHILE I WATCH.

SOMEWHERE, TURRAN KHA WILL STRIKE.

I HOPE THE DIGNITARIES AREN'T OFFENDED BY MY COSMIC ROD. IT MUST SEEM POOR PROTOCOL FOR ME TO BRING SUCH AN OBVIOUS WEAPON--



--INTO A GATHERING
INTENDED TO BRING PEACE.

BUT I MUST BE READY.
ADAM HAS HIS GUN AND...
I DUNNO... IS THAT A
CUTLASS?

MIKAAL. MIKAAL STARES
OFF. HE LOOKS TO BE IN
A TRANCE. EYES GLAZED
LIKE HEADLIGHTS IN
SUMMER. I'VE BEGUN
TO REALIZE HOW LITTLE
I KNOW ABOUT HIM.

I SHOULD GO TO HIM--

--BUT THEN INSTEAD THE MOUNTAIN
COMES TO MOHAMMED.

HE'S HERE.

WHAT?

I CAN
FEEL HIM.

ADAM!

WHAT IS
IT?

TURRAN
KHA IS
HERE. I'M
SURE.

THE HALL WAS **SCANNED**
FOR LIFE AND THEN **SEALED**
BEFORE THE GALA STARTED.
EVERY PERSON ATTENDING
WAS **RESCANNED**.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

NO. HE'S
WITH US!

YEOMAN
FARRIS, CAN
YOU HEAR
ME?

SIR.

RECHECK THE
HALL FOR SIGNS
OF A BREAK-IN.

RESCAN THE
ATTENDEES, TOO.
BE DISCREET YOU
UNDERSTAND?

AYE,
SIR.



ALANNA, ALEEA'S OVER WITH HER GOVERNESS. WHY DON'T YOU GET THEM OUT OF HERE. YOU KNOW HOW PROTECTIVE I'VE BECOME OF YOU BOTH.

I'LL RETURN AS SOON AS SHE'S BACK IN HER NURSERY.

NO, WHY DON'T YOU STAY WITH HER FOR--

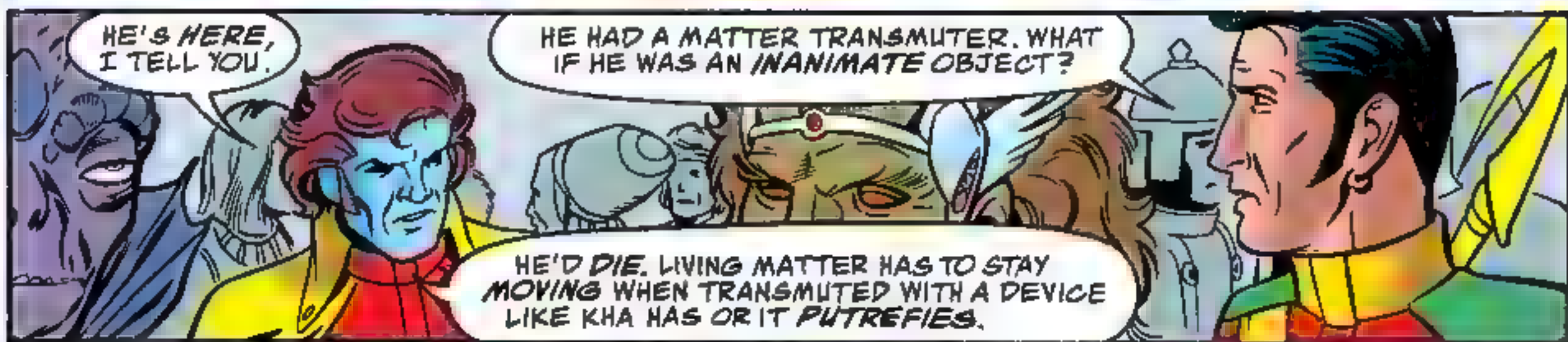
SIR.



YES, FARRIS.

WE CHECKED THE HALL. WE USED A MASS COMPUTER PROBE TO RECHECK EVERYONE'S SIGNATURE.

NOTHING, SIR.



HE'S HERE, I TELL YOU.

HE HAD A MATTER TRANSMUTER. WHAT IF HE WAS AN INANIMATE OBJECT?

HE'D DIE. LIVING MATTER HAS TO STAY MOVING WHEN TRANSMUTED WITH A DEVICE LIKE KHA HAS OR IT PUTREFIES.

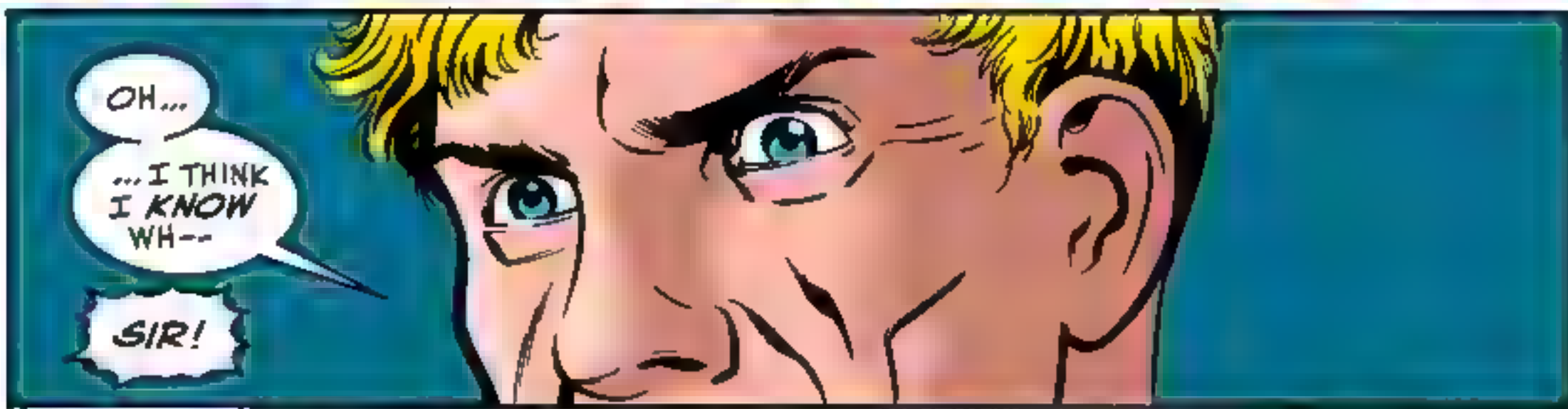


ADAM, WHAT IS IT?

DANGER, SARDATH.

HE'S GOT TO BE SOMEWHERE IN THE ROOM!

BUT WHERE--?



OH...

...I THINK I KNOW WH--

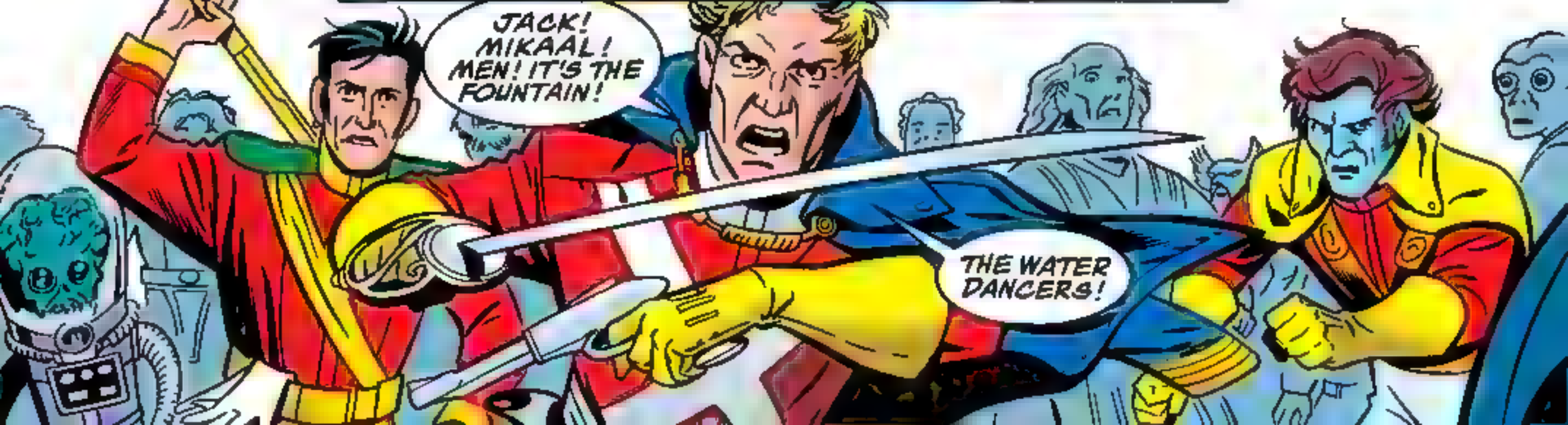
SIR!



WE FOUND TWO MURDERED ATTENDANTS! THEY WERE IN CHARGE OF--

WATER, RIGHT, FARRIS? THEY WERE IN CHARGE OF WATER!

YES, SIR, TH--

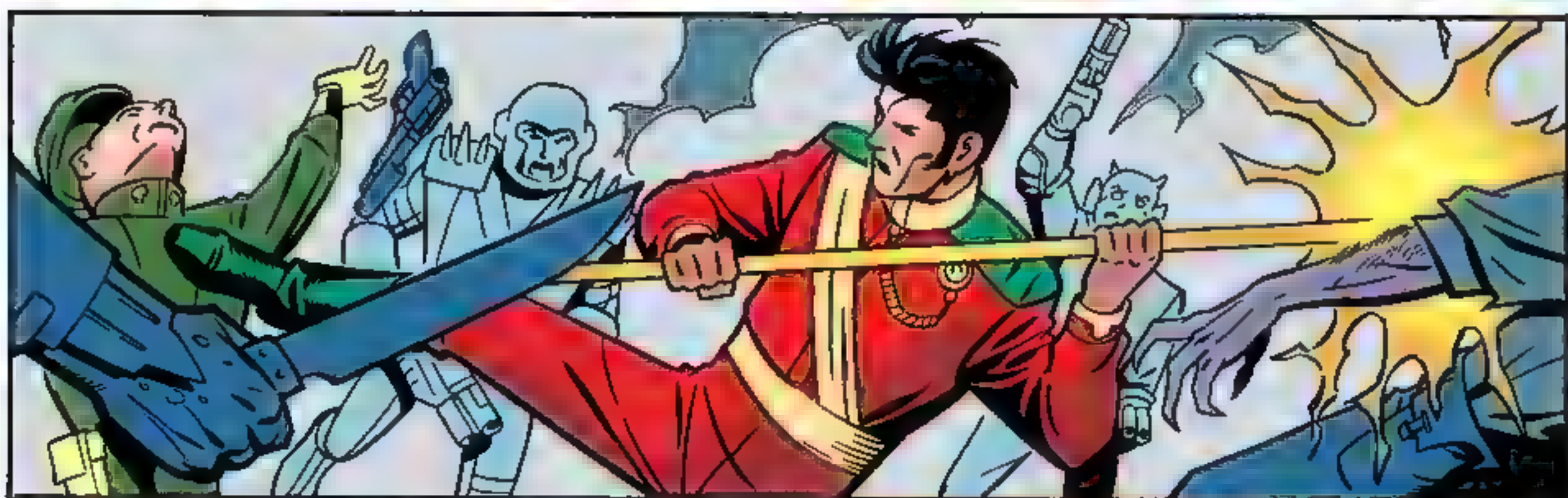
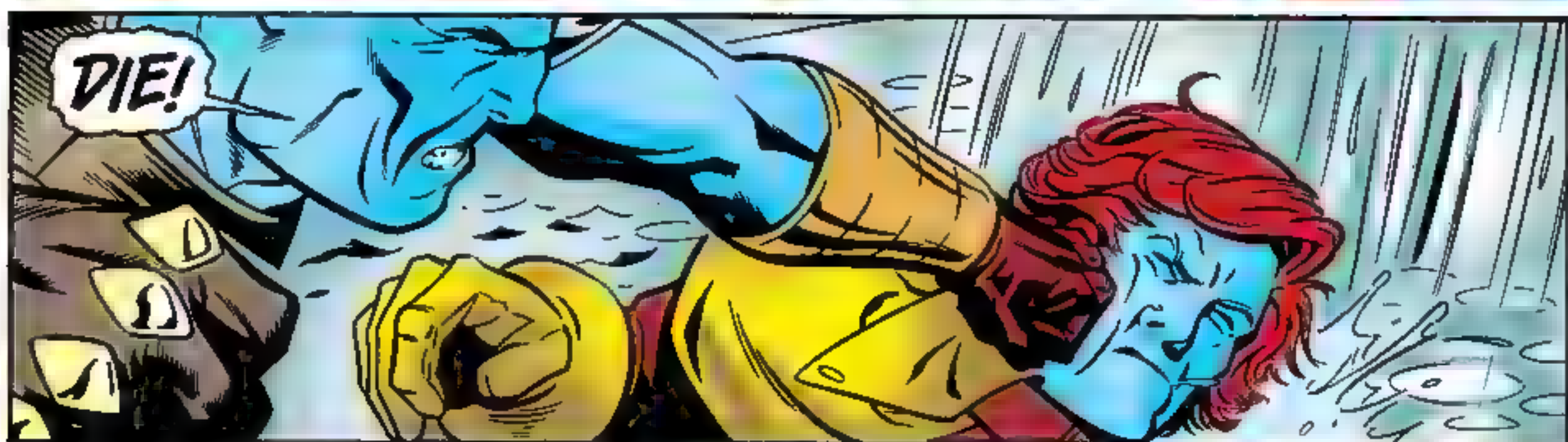
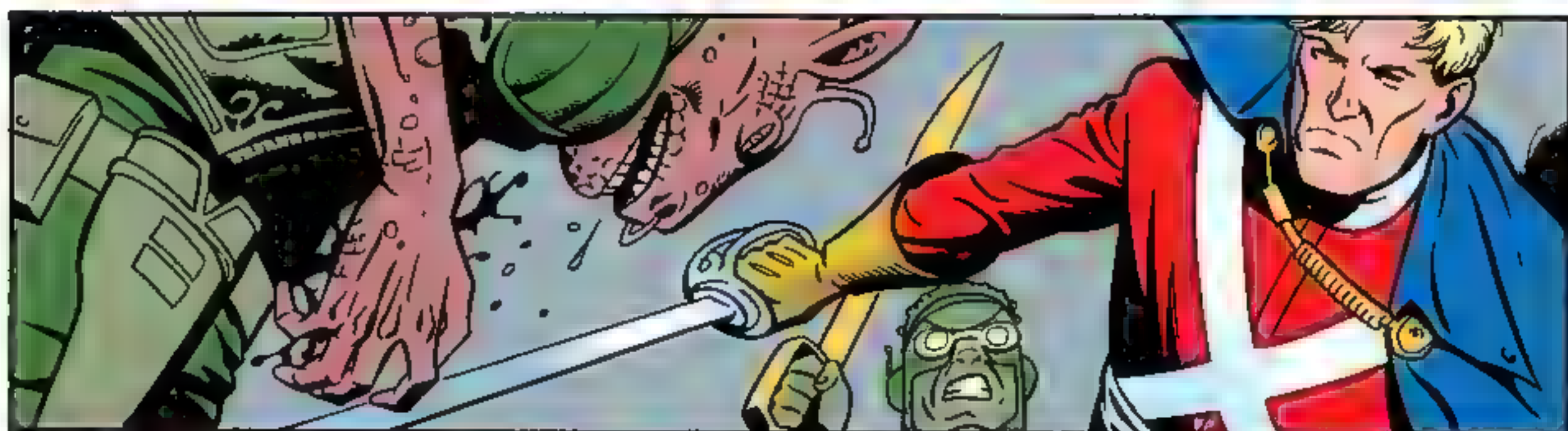


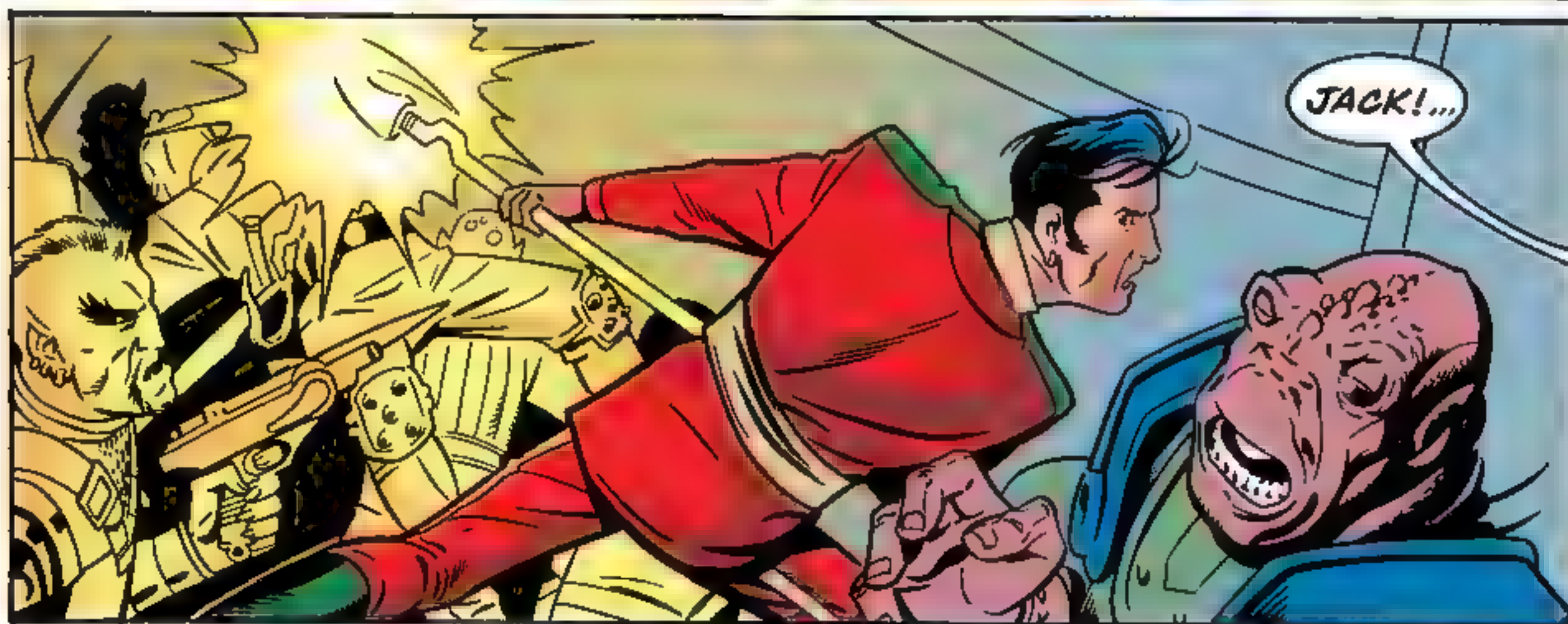
JACK! MIKAAL! MEN! IT'S THE FOUNTAIN!

THE WATER DANCERS!

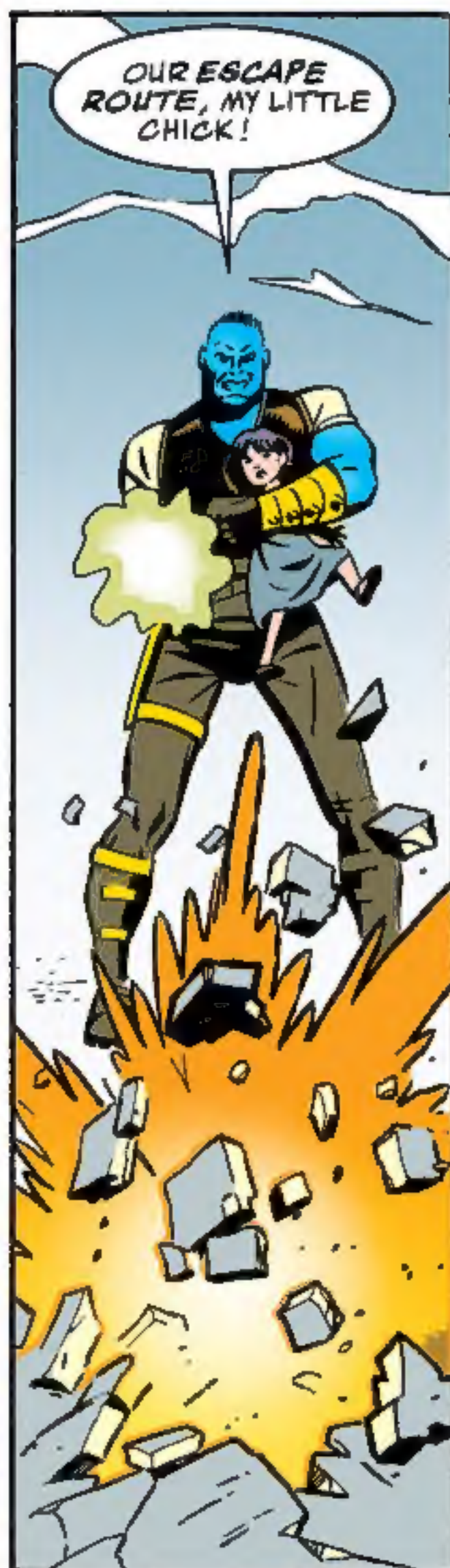
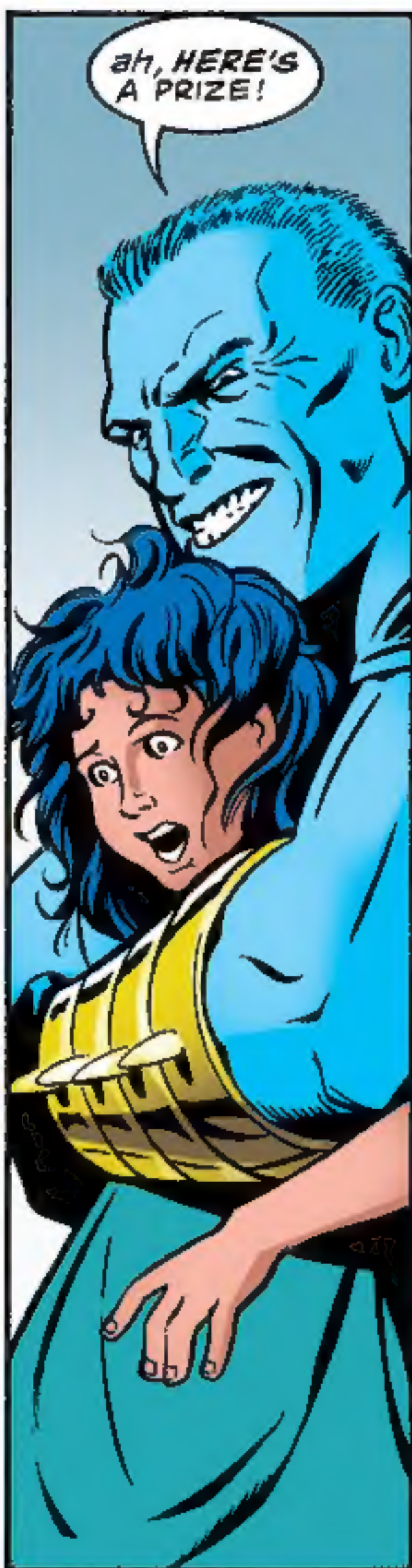
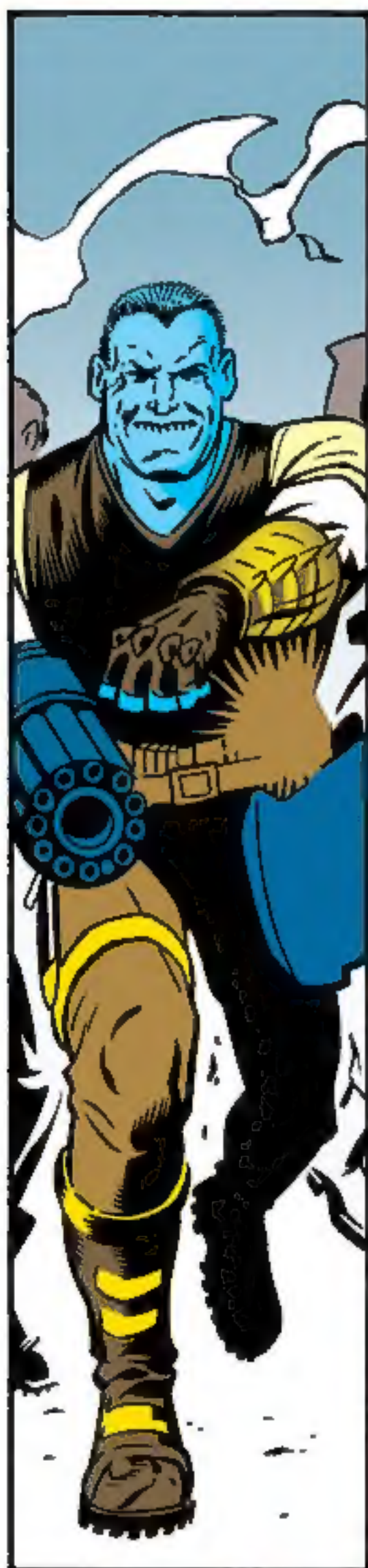


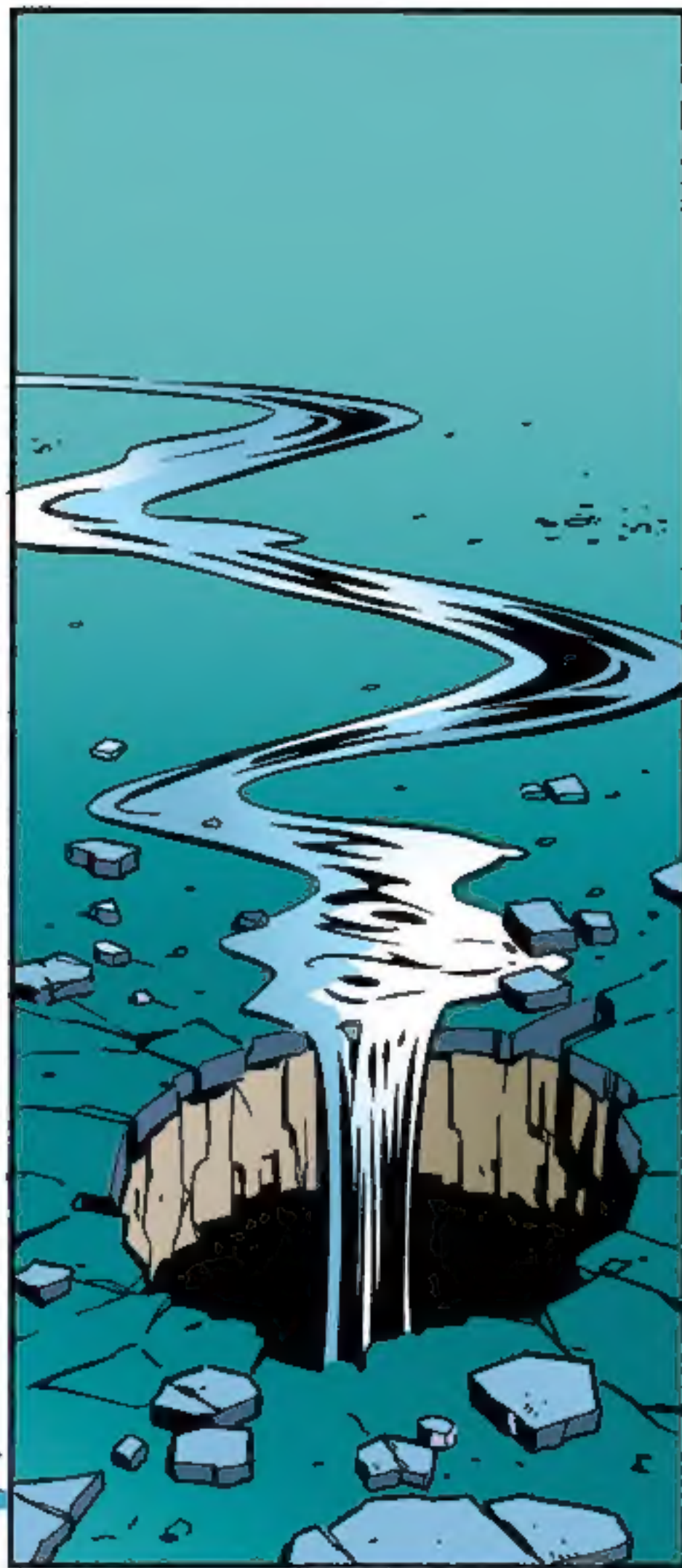












...JACK
KNIGHT IS
DEAD!



Deadman Wade

"THIS IS WHAT
AWESOME
LOOKS LIKE".

DCP